

CALIFORNIA COURTS




THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF CALIFORNIA

Supreme Court of California

Special Announcement

POSTED FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 25, 2020

NOTICE

The Supreme Court continues to closely monitor the evolving COVID-19 coronavirus situation, and is following guidance provided by federal, state, and local health authorities to limit the spread of the virus. In response to the coronavirus situation, the court has adopted expanded [e-filing rules for litigants](#), previously extended the deadlines under the California Rules of Court for an additional 30 days for all Supreme Court proceedings under an [amended Administrative Order](#) , and until further notice will be [conducting oral argument](#) from the San Francisco Supreme Court Headquarters building with counsel appearing through teleconferencing, videoconferencing, or similar methods of remote participation. The court has also implemented additional [social distancing and density controls](#)  for oral argument. The court has issued a [third standing order](#)  concerning oral argument relating to the time allocation for uninterrupted opening argument.

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California Supreme Court case information is updated once an hour throughout the business day.



Oral Argument Information

The next scheduled oral argument will be October 7 2020 in San Francisco. [Calendar](#) .



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Of Current Interest

[Court Issues Letter on Personally Identifiable
Information Collected During Bar Examination](#) 

(Sept 25, 2020)

The Supreme Court of California issued a letter in

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support of the State Bar of California's decision to request destruction of all personally identifiable information, including biometric data, collected during the October online Bar Exam as soon as possible after the exam. The court directed the State Bar to propose a timetable for destruction of the data retained by vendor ExamSoft and its third-party providers within 60 days.

Supreme Court Oral Argument Calendar for October 7, 2020 📅 (Sept 22, 2020)

The Supreme Court of California has posted the calendar for the hearing at its courtroom in the Ronald M. George State Office Complex, Earl Warren Building, 350 McAllister Street, Fourth Floor, San Francisco, California, on October 7, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic and related public health directives from state and local authorities, the procedures specified by Administrative Orders 2020-3-13 (Mar. 16, 2020) 📅, 2020-03-27 (March 27, 2020) 📅 and 2020-08-19 (August 19, 2020) 📅 apply. Counsel will appear remotely and courtroom seating for the press will be strictly limited to achieve appropriate distancing. The public will continue to have access to argument via live-streaming on the judicial branch website: <https://www.courts.ca.gov/>. Case briefs.

Court Appoints Members to State Bar Board of Trustees, Committee of Bar Examiners, and State Bar Court (Aug 25, 2020)

The Supreme Court of California announced appointments to three State Bar of California entities: the Board of Trustees, Committee of Bar Examiners, and the State Bar Court.

2021 Oral Argument Calendar 📅 (Aug 14, 2020)

The Supreme Court of California has published its Oral Argument Calendar for next year. The calendar highlights the weeks currently reserved for oral argument and the dates for the court's weekly conferences and court holidays.

Court Issues Order Finalizing October Online Bar Exam, Lower Passing Score for Future Bar Exam Takers (Aug 10, 2020)

The Supreme Court of California issued an order 📅 finalizing plans previously announced to permanently lower the passing score for the California Bar Exam and for an October test administered online. The court also said the lower passing score would not be

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applied retroactively to past test takers, in a letter sent today to the State Bar of California's Board of Trustees.

Court takes action on California Bar Examination

(Jul 16, 2020)

The Supreme Court of California announced that it will permanently lower the passing score for the California Bar Exam and released plans for an October 5-6 test administered online. The court also directed the State Bar of California to expedite creation of a provisional licensure program under supervision to 2020 law school graduates—effective at least until June 1, 2022, or until they can take and pass a California bar exam.

California Supreme Court Names Jury Selection Work Group

(Jul 6, 2020)

The Supreme Court of California on Monday named members to its Jury Selection Work Group to study changes or new measures to guard against impermissible discrimination in jury selection. The work group includes 11 judges and justices that represent the California Supreme Court, appellate courts and trial courts throughout the state. Over 12 to 15 months, work group members will study a broad range of topics related to jury selection, including diversity in California jury pools, changes to jury instructions and the impact of unconscious bias.

California Supreme Court Amends Code of Judicial Ethics

(Jun 15, 2020)

The Supreme Court of California unanimously adopted a slate of changes to the California Code of Judicial Ethics, which include allowing judges to speak publicly about a pending case if they are criticized for a ruling during an election or recall campaign. The amendments, which go into effect July 1, were open for public comment over two months beginning last October and are based on the recommendations of the California Supreme Court's Advisory Committee on the Code of Judicial Ethics.

Supreme Court of California Issues Statement on Equality and Inclusion

(Jun 11, 2020)

In view of recent events in our communities and through the nation, we are at an inflection point in our history. It is all too clear that the legacy of past injustices inflicted on African Americans persists powerfully and tragically to this day. Each of us has a duty to recognize there is much unfinished and

essential work that must be done to make equality and inclusion an everyday reality for all. [\[Full statement\]](#).

Justice Ming Chin to Retire from California Supreme Court (Jan 15, 2020)

Justice [Ming W. Chin](#) today announced he will retire from the Supreme Court of California on August 31, capping a nearly 25-year career on the state high court.

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Case Information

The California Appellate Courts Case Information System provides case information for California Supreme Court and Court of Appeal cases. Case information is updated once an hour throughout the business day.

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Representation of Death Penalty Inmates



The California Supreme Court is seeking qualified lawyers to represent indigent persons who have been sentenced to death in their direct appeal to the Supreme Court. For information regarding applying for an appointment, appointed counsel's duties, and payment of counsel's fees and expenses, please use the following link: [Representing Death Penalty Inmates](#).

Calendars/Briefs


View the Supreme Court oral argument calendar and the briefs for the cases being argued.

[Supreme Court oral argument calendar for October 7, 2020](#) 

[Supreme Court oral argument briefs for October 7, 2020](#)

- [2021 Oral Argument Calendar Dates](#) 
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Practices & Procedures

- [The Supreme Court of California](#) 
booklet (Seventh Edition; updated Jan 2016)
contains Internal Operating Practices and Procedures; provides overview of court's work, membership, and history.
- [Petitioning for Review in the Supreme Court](#)